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EDITORIAL



AIMS OF THE INSTITUTE

To act as the voice of the Amateur in public discussions.

To assist in the investigation of communication problems.

To conduct educational work.

To provide a medium for exchange of ideas and to publish a journal.

To promote friendships between experimenters.

At this time of the year most people endeavour to convey to others expressions of Christmas goodwill, and to show in a practical manner by the exchange of gifts, that friendship means something real and valuable to them.

The spirit of friendship has much to commend it at all times and the Radio Amateur knows that his attitude to his fellow Amateur is important in this respect, as friendship has always been part of the Amateur's code.

At this season of the year, it seems to us that we should ensure that our help and co-operation is extended more heartily and consistently than usual to others interested in Amateur Radio, and that we make special efforts to break down the natural shyness and reserve which often prevents us getting together.

Your Federal Executive suggests that you endeavour to carry the Christmas spirit to some young enthusiast in Radio, with the intention of assisting him to qualify as the holder of an experimental licence.

No doubt many of our members already do assist others in this way, but there are plenty of young people who would be cheered and helped by a little practical assistance and advice.

Christmas offers a suitable opportunity for us to visit other Amateurs, especially establishing friendly relations with our near neighbours as well as forming lasting friendships with other Divisional members.

For those who are shy types and find it difficult to form new friendships, this time of the year makes new contacts easy. Everyone is more easily approached at Christmas and the general spirit of friendliness makes these contacts simple and effective.

We have been reading through some old copies of "QST" (1928 vintage) and find that the prevailing spirit of those days was "real and practical friendship." Perhaps that is why some of our overseas Amateur Radio associations have grown and developed to the strength they enjoy today.

Your Federal Executive desires to extend sincere thanks to all those who have assisted in the administration and development of the Wireless Institute of Australia and to express the wish on behalf of the Federal Council that Christmas will be a season of goodwill indeed and that the New Year will be a happy one for you and yours.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE

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WI BROADCASTS

All Amateurs are urged to keep these frequencies clear during, and for a period of 15 minutes after, the official Broadcasts.

VK3WI: Sundays, 1100 hours EST, 7146 Mc. and 2600 hours EST 56 and 144 Mc. No frequency checks available from VK3WI. Intrastate working frequency 7135 KC.

VK3WI: Sundays, 1130 hours EST, simultaneous on 2600 and 14542 Mc. 3561 Mc. and 146.55 Mc. Intrastate working frequency 7135 KC. Individual frequency checks of Amateur Stations given when VK3WI is on the air.

VK3WI: Sundays, 0900 hours EST, simultaneously on 2600 and 14542 Mc. 3561 Mc. channel is used from 0915 hours to 1015 hours each Sunday for the W.I.A. Country hook-up. No frequency checks available.

VK3WI: Sundays, 1000 hours EAST, on 7146 Mc. Frequency checks are given by VK3MHD and VK3WI by arrangement on all bands to 56 Mc.

VK3WI: Sundays, at 1000 hours EST, on 7146 Mc. and 3672 Mc. No frequency checks available.

VK3WI: Sundays, 1000 hours EST, simultaneously on 35.7, 7, 14 and 26 Mc. Individual frequency checks of Amateur Stations given when VK3WI is on the air.

ANOTHER TWO-METRE CONVERTER

BY R. M. WINCH,* VK2OA

YES! Another 2 metre converter using the same old tubes and the same old cascode circuit with the same old overtone oscillator and multiplier. Well, why all the hullabaloo and fuss? The answer is in the way it is put together!

If you have read the results of sundry fox hunts, hidden transmitter hunts, etc., which have taken place in VK2 land you may (?) have gained the impression that VK2OA is one of the top line boys on 2 metres in Sydney. This shows just how wrong you can be. Chasing signals down a back road of Killara and chasing paradiables down the screen circuit of a 6AK5—shah! there you have two entirely different set-ups. VK2OA can (and has) run into every bit as much strife with 2 metre gear as was ever visualised by VK2QZ ("A.R." Aug. '55) and VK2EF ("A.R." June '56). For months, his pet 2 metre converter had a noise figure which only occasion-

with each other. The technical bods refer to this sort of thing as r.f. coupling of some form or other. The straightout mutual inductive kind we lick with shielding, generally the more the better. Now, straightout mutual inductive coupling can be a menace, but at least we can see it. With one coil here and another coil there, we can visualise the lines of force reaching out from coil to coil and we can see what a beautiful job the shield does in foiling their dirty designs. But what you can see is only half the story!

See that lead sneaking under the first coil, around the end of the shield and under the second coil on its way to the second valve socket? The shield isn't in the race against that one. See that three-quarter inch long cathode resistor? Whoa! Before you eighty metre types get too sarcastic, try putting a 10-watt wire-wound resistor in the cathode of your final and then by-pass it with a

Nevertheless, with modern high-gain tubes they are a must, irrespective of what frequency we are using. The catch is that the difficulty of accomplishment is proportional to the frequency we are using. (" $\frac{1}{2}$ " at 80 metres equals . . . Struth! I can't get the iron in.) However, if you are willing to change your conventional constructional ideas a little you will find the problem is softened up somewhat.

PRACTICAL APPROACH

Too long have we followed the old idea of putting all the valves, transformers and other bulky items on top of the chassis and all the wiring, resistors, capacitors and other small items underneath. Why not divide our leads and components into "hot" and "cold" categories? Then, if we put one lot on one side of the chassis and the other lot on the other side of the chassis, we have automatically shielded them from

BANS E181

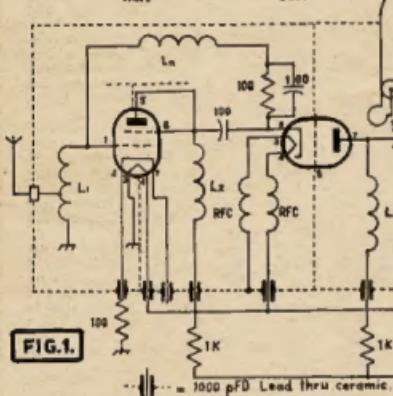
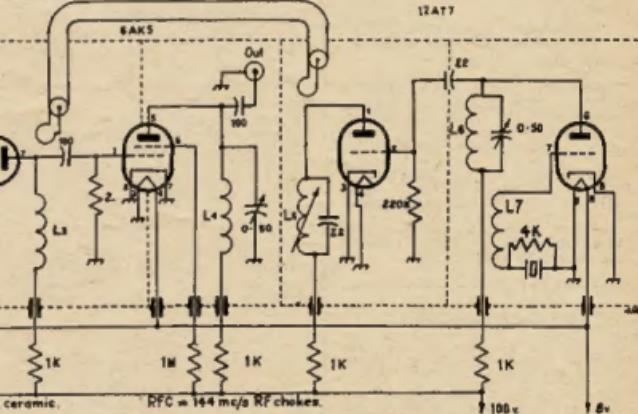


FIG. 1.



ally dropped below 20 db. so that when I finally built a new converter which came up, first go, with a noise figure of 5 db., there must be something worth talking about, don't you think?

TECHNICAL REASONING

In every piece of r.f. apparatus there is both "hot" and "cold" leads and components. Circuitwise, that is OK, but when it comes to construction some very nasty little problems rear their ugly heads. Obviously, we want to get the "hot" bits as hot as we can; you know, lo-loss, hi-Q sort of thing. That is what the handbook means when it talks about ceramic valve sockets, air supported coils wound of heavy wire of an optimum form factor and not too close to surrounding metal, etc.

Also, we do not want different families of "hot" leads getting mixed up

0.1 uF. paper capacitor to a spot on the chassis two feet six inches away from the cathode. (" $\frac{1}{2}$ " at 2 metres equals 2' 6" at 80 metres.) Rocks you, doesn't it?

By now, you should be at the stage where you will readily believe that we want our "cold" leads and components so cold that they have icicles on them and they should be like that all over. (Who said take it up to the top of Mt. Kosciusko?). From the foregoing it will be seen that we should treat each cold lead and component in the following manner:

- (a) Completely shield it from all hot leads and components so that no r.f. can be induced into it, either inductively or capacitively, and
- (b) Where the cold lead joins a hot component, completely by-pass the junction to ground.

These sound to be very stringent requirements which we have to fill

other other. That has fixed up requirement (a).

Now we come to requirement (b). Suppose we consider the lead from the cold end of the plate coil which we want to by-pass and then take through the chassis to ht. Our normal way of looking at by-passing is by providing an easier path for the r.f. to get to ground. The way we should look at it is that the r.f. potential at the by-passed point is proportional to the impedance between that point and ground. Note the use of "impedance" instead of "capacitive reactance". Again, this "cold" lead still has to get from the by-passed point to the hole in the chassis and on its way it can have r.f. induced into it. OK! Then we want a by-pass capacitor with no impedance and the by-passed point wants to be right at the hole in the chassis.

That certainly is a tough assignment, but we can get full marks for the sec-

ond part and score pretty highly for the first part if we use ceramic lead-through capacitors to do our by-passing. These little dingsuses have been in existence for a fair while, but they seem to be not so well known as they should be. Briefly, they consist of a ceramic tube plated inside and outside. Through the centre is a lead connected to the inside coating and sticking out both ends. The outside coating is connected to some form of mounting so that the capacitor can be mounted in a hole in the chassis with one half of the centre conductor on each side of the chassis. Since the outside electrode becomes an integral part of the chassis the overall impedance between the centre and ground is virtually the reactance of the capacitance only.

They can be placed around the valve socket so that the screen, cathode and filament connections of the socket can be connected to them with the minimum of lead length. The supply leads, of course, being connected to the other end of the centre conductor which is on the cold side of the chassis. (The cold end of the plate coil is supported by one also.) These capacitors are currently available from VK5EF's friend, they hold 1000 puffs and they can stand more volts than you can. And they compare in price with the Aspros VK5EF consumed.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Now that you have the meat of the story here are some pretty pictures. Fig. 1 shows the circuit of the converter drawn in a fashion which illustrates how the two categories—"hot" and "cold"—are kept apart. Fig. 2 shows the layout on the hot side of the chassis. The cold side is not shown as it is not in the least bit critical. The original converter was built long and narrow only because it had to fit into a given space in a mobile rig. The chassis and partitions were made from twelve "thou" shim brass bent up with pliers and soldered together. The chassis itself was bent up and soldered first. The socket holes were then punched and the sockets mounted. After that the partitions were shaped and soldered into place, and finally the holes for the lead-through capacitors were made. Of course, if you are a blacksmith you can use heavy gauge brass, but it is surprising just how rigid the shim is.

The circuit is straightforward and has appeared in many publications over the last five years or so. The EC91 was chosen for the grounded grid stage because it gave a better layout than the conventional 6J6 or 12AT7. There may be some argument about the use of the pentode mixer, but some research (into

"QST" and the like) seemed to sum up that if the cascade is doing its job properly the difference in noise between a triode and a pentode mixer does not mean much and the pentode is not so critical of oscillator injection voltage.

The overtone oscillator circuit used as chosen for its ease of adjustment. The plate circuit of the multiplier section is shown as being slug tuned (brass slug). This could equally well have been capacitively tuned. The deciding factor in this case was the availability of a nice ceramic former already slugged and the non-availability of a suitable small sized variable capacitor. Which ever way it is done it should not be too broad in its response. Any r.f. at other than the desired harmonic appearing in this coil will get on to the mixer grid and cause some extra noise without causing some extra signal. The link from this coil to the mixer grid coil was made from a single piece of co-axial cable. The outside, braid and inside were stripped to leave enough of the inner conductor to form a single turn loop.

A hole was bored in the chassis, the co-ax pushed through from the top, the braid soldered to the chassis, then the piece of inner conductor bent round to form a single turn and the end soldered to the end of the braid. The single turn is closely coupled to the cold end of the coil.

GETTING IT GOING

This is where you re-read the articles written by those two blokes whose names were mentioned earlier, say to yourself, "They don't scare me—I think," get out the g.d.o. and start some serious work. In addition to the g.d.o. you will want twice as much coil wire as you estimated and a thin stick which has a small brass slug mounted on one end and an iron dust slug on the other end. (Once upon a time when we wound our own broadcast coils, this dingus was known as a "tuning wand." Remember?)

L1, L2 and L3 could start off at four turns, $\frac{1}{4}$ diameter, spread out a fair bit and with L1 tapped one-third the way up. Ln could be made about 13 turns, $\frac{1}{4}$ diameter and almost close wound. L4, L5, L6 and L7—well, you're on your own there, chum. The size of these will be determined by the crystal frequency.

Just to save all argument, let's assume that the crystal frequency is 8500 Kc. Three times that is 25.5 Mc. (that is where L6/7 has to go) and—let's see—five times that is 127.5 Mc. (L5) which gives 16.5 to 20.5 Mc. out, so straight-away you can play around with L4 until it hits approximately 17–17.5 Mc. This done, forget it and turn to L6. Wind eleven coils of different sizes and pick

the one that resonates at 25.5 Mc. with approximately 35 pF across it (wired into the circuit and with the valves plugged in, of course). Incidentally, a good former for this coil is a piece of the polythene out of co-ax cable.

Now carefully remove L6 from the chassis and wrap a small piece of paper around the cold end of the former. On the paper wind L7 with approximately one-third the number of turns in L6. Fasten the turns of L7 down—not with chewing gum—and make sure that it will slide up and down so that the coupling can be varied. Now put it back and wire it in. Better check that L6 still hits 25.5 Mc!

Apply the h.t. on it and see what happens. By tuning the plate circuit it should be possible to make the stage oscillate. If no oscillation occurs at any setting of the plate tuning check the following: L7 either wound or connected back-to-front, insufficient coupling between L6 and L7, L7 too small.

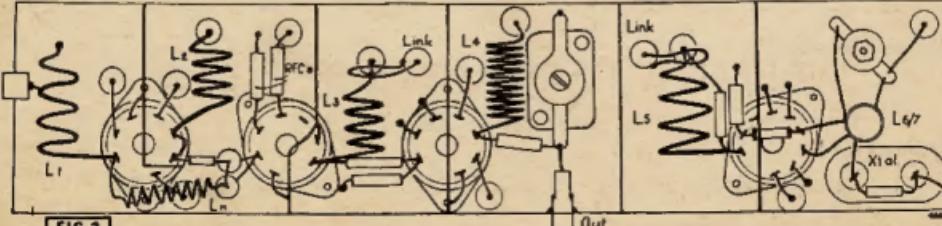
With oscillation occurring over a wide range of plate tuning, decrease the coupling a little bit at a time until the stage oscillates over only one small portion of the plate tuning. Now listen on 25.5 Mc. for that nice clean crystal note and make sure that there is nothing else.

Got that all fixed up? Good! You're halfway. Laddie, you've made an overtone oscillator work and you may now go out and crow over those uninformed 80 metre types that inhabit your town. They'll only look at you with pity, but take no notice.

Come back and put the g.d.o. over L1, L2 and L3. Squeeze, push, pull, stretch or whatever is necessary to make them resonate at 144.5 Mc. and then use the same procedure to make L5 resonant at 127.5 Mc. (Don't forget your crystal won't be 8500, so for 25.5 and 127.5 Mc. read the appropriate multiplications of your crystal.) While you have been doing this, you will have noticed that L2 has a very broad response. Don't worry, that is how they all are.

Now comes the big moment! Make sure that the 2 metre beam is connected to the converter and that the converter is connected to the receiver, which is switched to the right frequency range, and that the speaker is connected. (You would be amazed just how essential it is to do all those things.) Hit the big switch and as soon as it has warmed up, tune over the band, starting at 144 Mc. What? No signals? Of course there isn't. It is Saturday night and they have all gone to the pictures. Never mind, they'll be there tomorrow night.

(Continued on Page 7)



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Nullabor Plains Expedition, '56-7

BY G. M. BOWEN,* VK5XU

THE Expedition is being run in conjunction with the first National Conference of Australian Speleologists (cave explorers to the uninitiated) and constitutes one of the major scientific expeditions in this field undertaken in Australia. It aims to acquire data on this remote area in the west of South Australia which hitherto it has not been possible to obtain because of its inaccessibility and the inhospitable nature of the terrain.

Most Australian States now have a group of enthusiasts who are devoted to the exploration of caves and the Conference, which precedes the Expedition, is being held in order to inaugurate a National Federation of Australian Speleologists. This is to be held at Pampanga, near Christies Beach, some 20 miles south of Adelaide, from 26th to 28th December, 1956.

At 0400 hours, on the 29th, approximately 60 members, from three States, will set out for the Nullabor Plains under the leadership of the S.A. Cave Exploration Group (Elery Hamilton-Smith, President). They will travel in trucks, each vehicle being fully equipped with material for exploring the caves and carrying its own food, water and fuel. Ceduna will be the dispersal location where final details will be arranged and water taken aboard for the 10 days in the field. The trucks will disperse over the Nullabor Plains forming the apexes of a triangle some 100 miles apart, operating in areas far removed from civilization.

Contact between each party and the Headquarters vehicle will be by radio communication as each truck will be equipped with mobile transceivers. These will operate on the 5 Mc. and 8 Mc. frequencies allocated to the Bush Church Aid Society at their Ceduna base. George Cameron (VK5EC) is in charge of the radio network in that area. Each vehicle will also be able to contact Ceduna direct in any case of emergency.

As organiser of that side of the expedition, I shall naturally be carrying equipment capable of operating on the Amateur bands and whenever possible—as power permits, usually in these cases—will be on the air looking for contacts.

The question is bound to be asked by someone—"What is the value of such an excursion?" Well, although the cost is approximately £25 per person (and paid by them too!), very little is known of this unique area except that it is a large limestone plateau rising some 500 feet above sea-level, and in places above the surrounding country another 200 feet. It is not perfectly horizontal, having a marked slope from west to east. Propagation of medium frequency radio waves by ground wave is negligible because of the very poor conductivity of the earth (compare the S.E. of South Australia) and some trouble is anticipated on the 2020 Kc. frequency unless dipoles or counterpoises are used.

Many caves occur in the area. Some of them have amazingly large single chambers with ceilings reaching 250 feet. Others penetrate to the water table nearly 300 feet below the surface and provide large areas of deep lakes which can be navigated in dinghies. The mineral content of much of this water is too high for human use—except externally; and summer being what it is, and the temperatures on the Nullabor Plains running usually over the century, I guess that any water will be acceptable, even though I have been told that its normal temperature is just above 65 degrees—"shiver-me-timbers."

Scientists in every branch will be making their studies of the rock formations and origins of the caves will be "meat" for the geologists; physicists will plot air temperatures and movement within the caves; zoologists, animal life on and below the plains; botanists, plant life; anthropologists will be looking for signs of native occupation and relics of earlier periods; surveyors will accurately map the caves and their exact positions will be determined; photographers will gather valuable records of everything that is worth photographing.

And what will yours truly be doing? Well, that's a secret even to him yet, but he'll let you know if and/or when he returns! So keep listening, chaps.

The W.I.A. is in this up to its neck, by heck!

AMATEUR CALL SIGNS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1956

NEW CALL SIGNS

New South Wales

VKE—L. E. Haines, 26 Park Ave., Waitara.

2QH—H. D. Howe, 35 Maroubra Bay Rd., Paddington.

Victoria

2ZDI—B. J. Crisp, 60 Northcliffe Av., Edithvale.

2ZDK—N. J. McLachlan, Shingler St., Leon-gatha.

2ZDR—R. J. Beames, 502 Ligar St., Ballarat.

2ZDR—R. H. Chapman, 13 Corona St., North Balwyn.

2ZEK—S. R. Boston, 161 McKinnon Rd., McKinnon.

Queensland

4BI—J. Birmingham, 103 Kerr Rd., Coopers Plains.

4DP—D. M. Fortley (Dr.), 36 Oxlade Drive, New Farm, Brisbane.

4HF—C. H. Foley, 2 John St., West End, Townsville.

4HR—R. W. Beale, 3 Duncan St., Hill End, Bathurst.

4WR—R. F. Woolley, 104 Cairns St., Cairns.

4ZW—B. Whitmore, 104 Cairns St., Cairns.

4ZAN—R. P. Ward, 11 Melville Ter., Wynnum.

5TK—G. P. Tuck, 57 Crows St., Mile End.

5WH—W. H. John, 14 Shirley Ave., Woodville West.

Western Australia

6ZAO—R. G. Smith, Waterloo.

Tasmania

7BT—T. G. Barnes, "Collevold," Main Rd., Tarooma.

Federated Territories

8AA—W. J. Steart, Antarctica.

8AJ—E. L. Lerpiniere, Direction Island, Cocos.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

VKE—New South Wales

2NU—L. J. Case, 29 Faraday St., Paddington.

10Z—W. E. Dixon, Mann St., Glenlyon.

2QI—C. Bowler, M.V. "Century," C/o. 25 Castle St., Handwick.

2KN—W. E. Gibbons, 52 Churchill Ave., Strathfield.

2AGN—G. E. Nixon-Smith, "Banyandah," R.M.B. 288, via Bathurst.

2ZAR—A. R. Ridgley, 77 Garfield St., Five Dock.

2ZAT—J. Wakefield, 5 Oaks Ave., Eastwood.

Victoria

3LQ—A. W. Chandler, 1513 High St., Armadale.

3NQ—K. H. Mealin, 35 Peterleigh Gr., Essendon.

3QL—S. H. Le Bretton, 19 Butcher St., St. Armand, Buxton.

3AMU—A. M. Upton, Cambridge St., South Melbourne.

3APC—Moorebin & District Radio Club, C/o. J. Kernes, 71 Daly St., Bentleigh.

3ASC—S. T. Clark, 80 Jensen Rd., East Preston.

3ZCP—A. D. Pridgen, Nepean Highway, Dromana.

Queensland

4KG—K. J. Briggs, C/o. H. West, 10 Watson St., Winton Heights, Brisbane.

4NB—R. J. Browne, 2 Garden Gr., Dorrington.

4TD—T. A. Dale, 34 Prince St., Annerley, Brisbane.

South Australia

5SM—A. R. Matthews, 15 Gurn St., Goodwood Park.

5DR—A. W. Winter, Murray St., Kinross.

5ON—C. O. Olhens, 62 Main Road, Blackwood Park.

5UF—R. Fenwick, C/o. 3AU, Box 207, Port Augusta.

5UW—K. E. Wilson, 5 Reading Rd., Clearview.

Western Australia

5AH—A. S. Hill, New Springs Station, via Wiluna.

5QO—F. R. Gray, 128 Flinders St., Mt. Hawthorn.

CANCELLED CALL SIGNS

New South Wales

2ACB—A. C. Bell.

2AQW—J. S. Walker.

2ZEW—R. C. Proct.

2ZEL—W. H. Lane.

Victoria

3VD—C. M. Barnett.

3VW—G. Stubie.

3ARI—R. M. Tufton.

3AUM—M. Upson.

Queensland

4JC—J. M. Cohoe.

South Australia

5ME—S. G. McLean.

5OP—K. N. Threl.

5ZAT—G. P. Turk. Now VK3TK.

5ZAY—O. P. Yelland.

5ZBJ—W. H. John. Now VK5WH.

Territories

1RM—E. L. Macklin.

1NH—J. L. Hicks.

1JW—J. L. Ward.

1RW—R. C. Widows.

1VH—F. A. Van Hulsen.

PERMITS GRANTED FOR TELEVISION EXPERIMENTS

VK—New South Wales

2ZAR/T—R. A. Ridgley.

Victoria

3ASB/T—S. B. Roberts.

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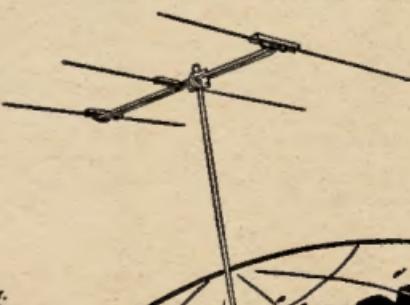
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CLAMP TUBE MODULATION

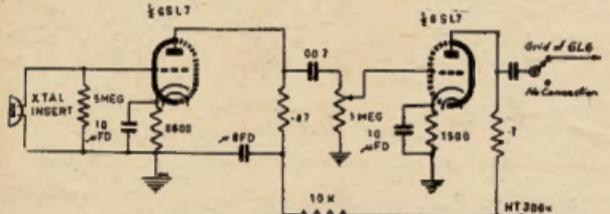
BY L. F. BRICE,* VK5OK

Do you want to go on "fone"? Then here is a modulator that will get you there quickly and cheaply without any fiddling. This should appeal to the new Amateur who, perhaps, has not yet acquired a modulation transformer and the other necessary bits and pieces needed for plate and screen modulation. It might even appeal to some of the c.w. boys who would like a good old "fone" ragchew (although they probably would never admit it).

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* 21 Hampton Street, Brooklyn Park, South Aus.



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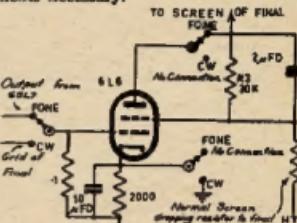
Published by the Wireless Institute of Aus.

THIS 1956 EDITION CONTAINS—

- An up-to-the-minute listing of Station Call Signs and Addresses of Licensees of Transmitting Stations located in the Commonwealth of Australia and its Mandated Territories including VK1 Australian Capital Territory and Z Call Signs.
- One thousand additions, alterations and deletions since last edition, making over two thousand amendments since the 1954 edition.
- DX Countries, Prefixes and their Zones.

Operating: The transmitter should be tuned and loaded for s.w. conditions.

Switch to modulation (input to final will drop by approximately one-third; this can be adjusted by varying the value of R3). No further tuning adjustments necessary.



With audio applied to the grid of the clamp tube, no change in final plate current should occur before 100 per cent. modulation is obtained.

Tests should be conducted to find the optimum setting of the audio gain control.

No difficulty should be experienced with this modulator and it can almost be guaranteed that you will have a "fone" signal on the air first try should you decide to give it a go.

ANOTHER 2-MX CONVERTER

(Continued from Page 3)

Anyhow, here is what you do tomorrow night. Tune in a medium strength signal (no more than 20 db. over 8) and check L1, L2 and L3 with the tuning wands. Gently approach each coil from the end with each slug in turn. If the signal goes up as the brass plug comes nearer, then the coil is too big. If, however, it is the iron slug that gives you another S-point, the coil is too small. Fix it. It is better to do one coil at a time and start with L3, then L1 and leave L2 to the last. Then have a go at L5. When you have the coils right, either slug will cause a decrease in signal strength.

Now find one of the real hefty signals and adjust L_n. It is best to pick one of the ear-bashers for this adjustment. Disconnect the supply to the filament of the first valve and, using the tuning wando, adjust L_n until the signal recedes into the murky distance. The adjustments of L₁ and L_n may interlock, likewise L₅ and L₃, so it's as well to check back and forth on them. Righto! Reconnect the filament supply and start listening. You'll hear them—if your beam works—and your location is alright—and they're on!

After about a month's use you will get to the stage where you will think, "She's not bad, but I wonder if I can do a bit better?" This is the stage where you cultivate one of the boys who owns a noise generator. You keep at him until he lends it to you and then you do the whole timing procedure again, including adjusting the aerial tap and the amount of oscillator injection until the noise figure is as low as you can get it. If it is worse than 5 db, then I've wasted my time; if it is better than 5 db—well, how's about dropping round and having a go at mine, pal? *Cheers,
CHI-EM-501*

1956 REMEMBRANCE DAY CONTEST RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST AUST.

Last year I referred to the extremely high scores from contestants and commented that it seemed that saturation had been reached. With the VK6 Division winning the trophy for the third time, it is necessary to amend that statement, for their final score this year has reached the highest ever yet attained. Magnificent operating by the top six scorers and the outstanding entry of other logs has shown that careful organisation beforehand can be the deciding factor in winning the trophy.

The colossal score turned in by VK3ATN merits your special attention and congratulations.

The scores of the States were fairly well separated this year, much to the relief of the Committee because each year the entry grows larger. My thanks on your behalf go to the VK5 Division Secretary, Brian Austin (VK5SCA), who is not a member of the Committee, but who has hardly missed a session over the past two months; to the new Contest Manager, Rex Richards (VK5DO), for his organising ability and patience during the marathon task of checking; the other members of the Committee, Reg 5RR, Les 5LC and Reg 5QR; and last but far from least, those impressed stalwarts 5PM, 5RG, 5HQ, 5KX, 5KO and 5OR.

As we ran out of midnight oil last year, we had to exist on the calories and fluid provided by our long suffering but good hearted wives.

Since postal arrangements were uncertain, no log was disqualified for late arrival; in point of fact this year seems to be the lowest yet, but the Committee was sorely tried in some cases where scores had not been added and in one instance points had not even been allotted for the contacts! In future no quarter will be given for incorrect logs; this Contest has been going too long for contestants not to know how to fill in their logs.

There were some funny incidents during the 24 hours. Les VK5UX working from my QTH and calling "VK5XU log VK5UX"—one poor VK4 wondered whether he was "contest happy"; a prominent Ballarat v.h.f. Ham who was having fun just prior to the opening trying to get drive to an 80' and loading it into a 68 footer with the far end in the mud; Bill, VK6DX, who worked all night, so he thought, until he looked at his log and found a couple of hours missing.

One sad incident occurred when one of my friends called a certain VK3 Amateur and was treated to a homily on how stupid the whole Contest was and how he didn't care whether it was a Memorial or not, blish blish!! I just wondered where his Amateur Radio hobby would have been if those who did for him hadn't answered the call and made the supreme sacrifice. As I felt ashamed that a fellow Amateur could so lower his dignity to make such statements for all to hear (and that included the general public), I am afraid that he was on my calling frequency! I apologised to my friend later.

Propagation conditions were almost ideal for the period and all bands were well populated. VK6, with its greater distances, had the edge on the other States as all bands were easy to work to the Eastern States. An interesting feature to the Committee was the total contacts made by each Division (as per logs) and the average on the basis of 1 point per contact. These figures were particularly interesting and could form the basis for a modification of the scoring system.

There is no doubt that the Contest is becoming more popular each year and I would remind you all that it is for a memorial to those who died that we do contest with each other. Please do not at any time let your striving for place-getting banish from your thoughts that selflessness and honour are the keystones of our grand hobby. For be ye well assured—

"By your acts of grace
So shall they live."

G. M. Bowen, Chairman, Contest Committee.

STATE SCORES

Western Australia

VK6FD	963	Average	881
6RU	944	Licensees	206
6HK	904	Logs	97
6MK	870		
6TH	848	Total Points ..	1298
6DX	759		

South Australia			
5K5EN	922	Average	812
5RG	890	Licensees	383
5WO	881	Logs	83
5JN	786		
5GW	752	Total Points ..	988
5MG	641		

New South Wales			
VK2AMR	841	Average	719
2AHH	808	Licensees	1112
2RS	803	Logs	54
1PM	782		
2BO	589	Total Points ..	755
2PN	509		

Tasmania			
VK7AI	682	Average	552
7LJ	597	Licensees	124
7BR	532	Logs	41
7DR	519		
7AB	512	Total Points ..	734
7YY	467		

Victoria			
VK3ATN	1147	Average	871
3ADW	804	Licensees	1056
3HG	623	Logs	73
3ALZ	518		
3DQ	508	Total Points ..	1177
3ZU	426		

New Guinea			
VK9DB	959	Average	437
9XK	480	Licensees	38
9FN	454	Logs	5
9WK	184	Total Points ..	495
9OQ	109		

Queensland			
VK1IJ	840	Average	447
1GA	529	Licensees	335
1MO	447	Logs	35
1DI	302		
1JF	283	Total Points ..	493
1OV	278		

Antarctica			
VK1IJ	978		
1GA	12		

AWARDS

Open

VK1IJ	978
2AHH	808
3ATN	1147
4CC	840
5RG	890
8RU	944
7LJ	597
9XK	480
2RS*	803

* Special Award.

Phone

VK2AMR	841
3ZU	426
4MO	447
5EN	922
6MK	870
7AI	882
9DB	959

C.W.

VK2GW	436
SAHH	320
4DI	302
5MD	269
6TL*	95
6EZ	145
7CH	399

* Northern Territory.

Listeners

A. Stebbing .. 392



Remembrance Day Trophy won by West Australia

OTHER LOGS

NEW SOUTH WALES

VK1XQ	585	VK2AHI	135	VK1WT	55
2ZL	420	2ZL	113	2ZL	113
2ZLWN	225	2ZLNO	237	2ZL	55
2ZL	428	2AZGJ	123	2AJY	49
2JS	508	2APG	111	2SJ	49
2APP	230	2ANU	195	2UC	49
2AHP	205	2CQZ	92	2ADL	44
2ARY	205	2CQZ	92	2AEZ	44
2JR	234	2ACD	77	2SAIC	35
2GT	225	2AVT	75	2AWQ	35
2AVY	211	2XAJ	75	2AWP	35
2ARF	198	2EGT	67	2HXM	17
2AJO	165	2AFIA	67	2AWX	15
2ADT	181	2PV	65	2CS	16
2AJL	147			2EO/P	10

Rejected Logs

VK1XYV - No contact times shown.
2EN - No "sent" serial number.
2ACI - No serial numbers.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

VK3CH	89	VK3KY	93	VK3XA	22
SQR	81	SJG	47	SLE	22
SIDH	87	SRO	47	SIP	24
SCK	78	SCJ	48	SEA	24
SIC	78	SJHQ	48	SIW	23
SIR	78	SJH	48	SIP	20
SOC	77	SWM	47	SPT	19
SWR	67	SDF	39	SPU	19
SWK	65	SLN	38	SCO	18
SWI	63	SFS	38	SOD	18
SWL	63	SFT	38	SDR	18
SCE	55	SHT	37	SDO	14
SBN	53	SHW	35	SLB	14
SCH	51	SAY	35	SSL	13
SFI	51	SFO	31	SCA	9

Check Log: VK3REG.

VK3IB	406	VK3YX	167	VK3CX	86
SAT	406	SARL	84	SAYM	56
3AGD	381	3IPW	180	3AKW	59
3AGV	381	3IPW	180	3IPY	59
3AJ	381	3IPW	180	3IPY	59
3EA	386	3AFF	124	3II	41
3TG	332	3IDW	138	3OH	38
3HE	312	3SM	148	3ARM	61
3FY	312	3JC	141	3ZZ	31
3JX	312	3JC	141	3GU	54
3EG	246	3ADU	121	3TRK	32
3IVF	262	3ABT	86	3ARV	32
3JKC	258	3APJ	86	3UM	29
3ANO	240	3KH	25	3CP	66
3APB	237	3LSB	25	3GP	24
3DU	237	3BGZ	69	3AWZ	21
3AJG	200	3XU	76	3XJ	20
3KR	197	3JBK	76	3LV	18
3ARJ	195	3AXU	73	3JO	18
3NT	195	3JYU	73	3PTT	18
3YQ	188	3AJXW	70	3ALD	16
3ATH	182	3JYU	70	3ZS	16
3ZM	189	3AIM	59	3OJ	16

Check Log: VK3JE.

QUEENSLAND

VK4DK	183	VK4CN	71	VK4EC	25
4HN	180	4KK	81	4BC	20
4JE	145	4PW	50	4LR	18
4VS	145	4XJ	45	4AF	18
4VU	145	4JF	47	4FH	18
4ZP	145	4GG	37	4XL	9
4ZH	85	4GG	37	4XL	9
4ZP	60	4LE	25	4ZZ	9
4OR	23	4EA	23	4XY	8
4HZ	21	4RW	24	4PR	8
4TF	74			4PA	7

Check Log: VK4BW.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VK1LAB	822	VK1NMK	314	VK1LC	224
SAP	426	8IT	314	8PF	221
TFY	403	8BO	314	8PQ	204
EQW	376	8PH	227	8NU	196
4ZP	376	8PH	227	8NU	196
4ZP	376	8PH	227	8NU	196
4ZB	288	8AZ	275	8PJ	181
SLQ	288	8AZ	275	8PJ	181
8OK	288	8JC	267	8MZ	182
SEP	288	8NC	267	8MZ	182
GBF	219	8PM	265	8HR	187

Check Log: VK1NMK.

VK3CB	407	VK3PE	92	VK3GA	18
SKO	325	SGE	325	SGO	18
STB	349	SGS	325	SGD	18
SVK	310	GWZ	325	ERS	17
SLU	170	GUR	325	ERG	17
SAC	225	SGC	325	ERA	17
SPI	195	SGF	325	ETK	17
SWH	225	SGW	325	EWR	17
SGL	214	SGX	325	EPW	16
SGL	214	SGY	325	ETP	16
SGL	214	SGZ	325	ETA	16
SGL	214	SGU	325	EGU	16
SGL	214	SGM/P	325	EMR/P	16
SGL	214	SGK	325	GLB	15
SGL	214	SGK	325	SLB	15
SGL	214	SGK	325	SGK	15
SGL	214	SGP	325	SGP	15
SGL	214	SGT	325	SGT	15
SGL	214	SGW	325	SGW	15
SGL	214	SGX	325	SGX	15
SGL	214	SGY	325	SGY	15
SGL	214	SGZ	325	SGZ	15
SGL	214	SGM/P	325	SGM/P	15
SGL	214	SGT/P	325	SGT/P	15
SGL	214	SGW	325	SGW	15
SGL	214	SGA	325	SGA	15
SGL	214	SGP	325	SGP	15
SGL	214	SGT	325	SGT	15
SGL	214	SGX	325	SGX	15
SGL	214	SGY	325	SGY	15
SGL	214	SGZ	325	SGZ	15

Check Log: VK3PE.

TASMANIA

VK1TKA	453	VK1TYA	83	VK1TOM	31
LIP	404	TLY	73	TLY	28
IJO	396	TLY	73	TLY	24
TUL	374	TLY	73	TLY	23
NIM	355	TRN	69	VOJ	30
NIM	355	TRN	69	VOJ	30
TAC/P	373	TCK	66	TWI	21
TBD	253	TLC	63	TLE	17
TCA	193	TWN	47	TCL	17
TDM	193	TWN	47	TCL	17
TRY	186	TAX	35	TDS	16
TJD	113	TJD	35	TDW	15
TRY	186	TJD	35	TDW	15

LISTENERS

Rankin, D. H.	377	Dash, N. L.	257
Price, F. H.	374	Woodman, I. R.	258
Campbell, J. A.	334	Dunstan, R. H.	149
de Balfour, R. A.	319	Sherin, G. E.	139
Thorpe, C. H.	285	Jenkins, D. H.	40
Davey, W.	288		

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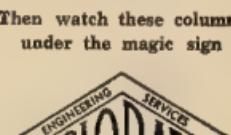
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YL CORNER

BY PHYLL MONCOUR

THAT EVENT OF GOOD CHEER—THE DINNER

The following is a definitely unbiased and of course unprejudiced report and any resemblance to any member of the VK3 Division is most certainly intentional.

Girls, I must tell you about the dinner. But of course, I was there. Oh I knew the Olds But to be honest, it is not me that Olds. Just can't go to their dinner, they think for hope? Well I joins their Institute, I gets some money out of the OM and I pays me sub. I even buys myself a badge—but still no dice. Definitely no wife. So I thought, well if I can't get a girl to come to me, I would go to their dinner. I'd get a job as a waitress. Of course I had to change my appearance, but a bit of camouflage and even my OM didn't recognize me.

Well it was a wonderful evening, an affair of gay light-heartedness (no YLs there), an evening of frolic and bubble. In fact, it was a night of fun starting at 5.45 mugs devolved to 7 and then tripled to 21. Of course that was all right for those few types, but the upper-crusts—the v.h.f. blokes, the ones who went up to \$70 mugs—where! Well they did real damage, the mugs were flying, the glasses were broken, then came the tanks. Some got rather exeter-hall and a certain amount of push-pull went on. Considerable disturbance was experienced and soon they were splashing all over the band of hi-fi musicians that were there. They were all very good. Now, Hon. Ben. Fred couldn't help feeling a bit key-ey about all this and the thought of all that juice of the current draining away was too much for him so he started "Ball-ing" it up and rehashing it.

There wasn't much scope when they sat down to eat so the ham-and-dish had to be \$7 on each plate. I checked you. From the feed point, the feed line was very long, and if you couldn't get any feed back where you were sitting, you swopped places and were fed, or eaten, or some even had to fall through a chair. There was a considerable amount of speech distortion all evening and the noise level was exceedingly high.

There was a great crowd there, up round about 144 mugs, all the most noticeable notables, and the dressing was a dazzling, gorgous extravaganza. Most favoured the new "G" sister, "new" "old" "new" "old" "new" "old" "new", querulous, questionable, quitter, quacky, queer-spoken. Something definitely out of phase with those last two qualities. I've never seen either of them in anybody's ole' room. The most striking thing about the dressing was that all were identically garbed, favouring the severely tailored suit type of creation.

Gordon wore an exquisite world period ensemble in a selective shade of navy blue, fashioned on the lines of yesterday (probably the one he got married in). Doug, in an electrifying shade of navy blue, was a little overexposed though. He came along in his "in" button-downs. Harold, in an ir-resistible bulb shade of navy blue, wore one of those divinely fashionable off-the-shoulders little things (his coat was obviously three sizes too big for him) was a pastel creation in a soft, semi-transparent garment dotted here and there with pink sequins for was it spots or pink? George, in a parlable shade of navy blue, adorned himself with a ribbon just above the shoulder line (would have been 75 cm ribbon hanging out of his breast pocket), also another characteristic of his rig-out was a pair of geraniums and silicon at the waist line (what waist line?) and four pairs of cufflinks. The doublet especially expressive earings were adorned in a powerful shade of navy blue, although I couldn't help feeling his suit looked a bit sham-made. Russell, in a sensitive shade of navy blue, wore an extremely attractive and new decorative bust pocket (probably full of C and L). Arthur was there too, in an illuminating shade of navy blue, designed on very flowing lines. The image of the one he wore last year. He was full to the very full of good cheer, he seemed to enjoy the party spirit of the evening. Cyril that buckin' blam, was there also in a magnetic shade of navy blue, fashioned on lines borrowed from the pages of the latest overseas designer (well he probably borrowed it from somebody anyhow). The make-up on Robert, the running man is that he

wore a fundamental two-piece suit in an alternating shade of navy blue in his double masterpiece with a diagonal pattern. Noel would like to have been there but his wife had gone to the pictures and he had to go and master.

The facial make-ups were many and varied—there was the clean-shaven, the dirty-shaven, the unshaven, the close-shaven and the near shave (electric shaver type). And the moustache—there was the bushy one, the cut-off, the Antarctic mule, and handlebar mule, and the half-a-mule.

And the jester they wore. Funny but all wore identically the same jestle-ery, the quaintest little deev-vice, formed in the shape of a map of Australia with a fine tracer in gold of a schematic insight across the centre. A most delicately executed work of art at priceless value.

And the jokes. There was the one about—but no, I'm afraid that one is censored. Well there was the one about—oh yes, very amusing that one again. But I can't say more as I've been thinking—perhaps I could do a bit of trading with the jokes. How about 3d. a joke, girls? We could put the proceeds towards their building fund.

Now everything didn't go exactly according to Hoyle (or even Hull). Ah no! You see the handbags. I mean the bags, the bags, the bags. He did a very excellent job but do you know what we just can't stop him C.R.O.-ing about it. However it was a grand evening, plenty 30s, plenty 50s too, and everything was \$1.50. until I heard the "excuse me" he was going to have something else. After that I took off as I had no desire to become a skeleton or a stet or anything like that, and besides, I just couldn't "wait" any longer. I had to be home before my OM.

S.W.L. SECTION*

Firstly, I must apologise for no notes in last month's issue but some unlucky circumstances prevented them from being printed. Next I would like to bring to your attention the text of a VK3WV Sunday broadcast extracted from the S.W.L. Group notes in that broadcast. It refers to the September 1st meeting of the Group, and reads as follows: "Report by Jim PFO, who present and spoke to the members regarding operation of Amateur Radio tx's. He explained how the P.M.G.'s Dept. were waging an unceasing war against illegal operation and made clear the dangers involved in such operation. He also stressed the necessity of consideration which should be given beforehand to all remarks which are made over the air if you have the opportunity of speaking to another person via Amateur Radio, be very careful that you check your remarks. Remember you could cause trouble for yourself and also for the owner of the station. Also, if you hear of anyone attempting or considering to attempt putting an illegal tx on the air do your best to dissuade them from doing so. Your position is better to do the right thing by the Amateur fraternity, the community and yourself by studying to obtain your A.O.C.P., than to "pirate."

NEW SOUTH WALES

Stan Abbey, of the "Cookham Key Klub Kuk"** was VK3 in the map together with Barry Cartwright, of Richmond, N.S.W. Stan tells of a very interesting display of mobile v.h.f. gear & rx equipment put on for the benefit of Jim Ashby and himself by Jim M. and Rod Dalfour of Launceston. These lads are really doing a good job keeping the s.w.l.s interested whilst they are grinding away studying for the ticket. Keep it up boys. Stan remarks: "There must be more than three VK3 listeners that are active. I know for fact that there are at least three associate members of the Institute in VK3 and you would think that they would have a RX at least!" So how about it all you VK3 s.w.l.'s? Write to Stan Abbey, Mimosa St., Coolamon, 4S, N.S.W. and let him know all about your activities for inclusion in these notes.

I have received two letters from Barry Cartwright, per media of the Vic. Award Manager, Gordon EXU (thanks for entrusting them Gordon). Harry is evidently very keen and makes several queries. I'll try to answer them as soon as possible, Harry.

VICTORIA

Sept. Group meeting.—At this meeting of the Group, Ron RAHV gave one of the most interesting lectures ever presented to the Group. He spoke on Radio Astronomy. His listeners were

kept enthralled by some most wonderful slides depicting the stars, planets, moon and other heavenly bodies, and Ron's most graphic descriptions as to how all these things affect our own planet. He also explained how various types of radiation from space influence our radio conditions and described simple equipment for observing these radiations.

October Group meeting. Len YLN was present at that meeting and gave a most interesting talk on Amateur tv. As this subject is the topic of the moment the talk was well timed. Items of equipment brought along by Len were enthusiastically studied by Group members. Thanks very much for your lectures Len and Ron.

Michael Ide was back at the last meeting after being absent in Sept. He may have been there but I don't remember. Frank Noller was still listening around for rare ones and generally keeping an ear on the bands. Bert Stebbing has been chasing foxes or something with the V.H.F. Group. Your writer is now enjoying a short holiday in Tasmania. He has just come on me in hand painting the new QTH. Henry Zaal, from Traralgon, was recently seen in Melbourne precariously perched on top of JDX's 88 ft tower. Putting up a beam of some kind Henry, or just wiping the dust off for the new Dave Jenkins, of Orbost, is still busy listening to him. I expect he has a lot up from harding them that critters.

QUEENSLAND

Don Bryant has favoured us with a letter from the Sunshine State. He tells us he is busy with some building projects and has also the idea of procuring some more gear in mind. Thanks for your letter. Don says he has been getting quite a bit of mail from you. No sign of you again soon. Nothing heard from Bruce Hughes for some time. He's most likely washing dishes and baby clothes now. Congrats would be in order I think.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Since Mac Hillard left the premier (*) State John Hillard has taken up the pen on behalf of VK3. Please see his front page article in the last Group meeting in Adelaide Jim PFO spoke on the subjects of shortwave listening conditions and receiving antennas. Everyone was kept interested by Jim's talk, and it was generally agreed that what he had been stating to include the next meeting in Adelaide. The boys say thanks very much to you Jim. John Hilditch brought along a home-brew two-tube portable rx and demonstrated it by receiving the local tx's and demonstrating it to the group. An R.A.D. 11000 was used for correspondence for these notes to John Campbell 26 Devonshire St, North Walkerville, South Australia.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr. F. H. Price, 10-Dunedin St., Mt. Hawthorn, Western Aus., has written saying that a few s.w.l.'s there are contemplating forming a Group. We wish you every success with this move. Please keep us informed of developments from many of you soon. So all you VK3 listeners rally round and be in this. Let's know all about your activities and just what goes on.

TASMANIA

Finally from our island friends we have two letters. One from Lindsay Brahan and one from Rod Dalfour of Launceston. I am sure Rod's name in the DX Activities column. Lindsay says, who is a person, still finds a little time for squeezing in some listening, using a four-wave dual-wave rx. He mentions quite a few stations heard and seems to be doing quite well. Lindsay's new location is surrounded by hills at Queenstown. We would be pleased to see you as a regular contributor to our notes Lindsay Rod de Balfour from Launceston has included a wealth of information in his letter and we hope you will continue it for us soon. Although only fifteen years of age he is apparently very active and is using a 4-wave superhet rx built by himself, covering from 80 through to 10 m with plug-couplers.

Well that completes our round-up of news for this month and we will sit back and wait for more of you to join in. Soon I hope to have some more of your correspondence and all who have written contributing to this column will receive a reply from me.

To all readers, a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. May 1957 bring good listening.

DO NOT FORGET!

The closing date for copy for the January issue is 3rd December.

* Compiled by Ian J. Hunt, WIA-LN007, XII 84, George's Road, Northcote, M.16, Vic.



A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

To you and those within your home
This Christmas Day may blessings come
And may good luck, good health, good cheer
Be guests of yours for all the year.



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NEW SOUTH WALES

The 3 m spring Field Day was held in beautiful weather and quite a number of home and portable stations took part. Messages were originated at 10 a.m. and relayed until 4 p.m. on Sat Oct 26. Logs have been handed to the technical manager and at the time of writing results are not yet to hand.

Each Wednesday preceding the monthly meeting night of the V.H.F. Group has been reserved for field day practice. The first one commenced at 8 a.m. and terminates at 8.30 p.m. Results are given over VK2WI Sunday evening b.c.

On 21st Oct. the station of Morris 2HIL, assisted by Chas 2NP, was given the job of going out and hiding somewhere. They really planted themselves in the scrub, but were eventually found in the same location during the afternoon by Dave 2ZAF, closely followed by John 2ANF and Dick 2ZCF. Several others arrived before time had expired, but Bob 2OA and co-pilot Percy 2AQF need no further instructions to be "hidden" during the QSO. An attractive certificate will again be awarded to the winner of each field day.

SBC and 3ATN had a two-way phone contact on 50 Mc. on 4th Nov. This is possibly the first interstate contact on 50 Mc. The allocation of 50 Mc. to the band, Distance approx 199 miles. Equipment used: SBC—50W. to QO7W/40, 4 l. w.s. beam 40 ft. up, cascade converter; SBC used 50W. to 2ZBZ, 6 l. beam 30 ft. up, stage mix converter.

Several visitors made themselves acquainted with the V.H.F. Group at our usual monthly meeting held on Friday night, 1st Nov., '56. Subjects of standing and considerable interest attended meeting to listen to an interesting session. It was agreed to set up a group and the then heard Mr. Gordon Hume, of S.T.C. give a talk on Pulse Radio Terrain Indicators. Which Mac. Com. associated with him did not know. Also on display were examples of tx's & rx's m-teters and other equipment.

A vote of thanks was carried by acclamation in the usual way, after Arthur 2AJA kindly thanked the lecturer for his instruction and entertainment.

The December meeting will manifest itself by holding an "Auction Sale", which will be conducted by Ted 2XX on behalf of the Group. From the northern area we are informed by Ken that 2AV, 2TVA and 2AW were active on 20 Mc. and attended the Bankstown Field Day. Visitors to the area were 4ZAA, Mick and Roy working mobile with a 2ZB. Geoff JVU heard 4ZAA from Tamworth, 2ANU out of luck with TX trouble.

The Fairlight boys 2AV and 2ZAF, and 2ATN and 2TU were active on the Spring Field Day and were able to clear all messages. Frank 2APF reports that 2ZAF of Warwick will be running tone in 20 Mc. on 2000 hours at 1000 hours for a minute each night with beam south. Frank now has a xtal locked converter, also 2KQ at Toronto. 2ANU is holding nightly with 2HO at 800 hours and also 2VU is receiving R/T on 2000 hours. Wrote with interest 2TU, lastest as have call in Sydney.

From Ian 2AZN we are informed that 2AZRU, on 50.1 Mc., has been heard calling CQ—2AFM.

VICTORIA

We had a very warm pleasant evening for that fast but hot struggle, we didn't have nearly as big a turn-up as on some of those freezing cold nights during the winter months. However there were enough there to make a good hunt, seven car loads turned up with that included. The first fox was heard at 10.30 p.m. or they went after the fox 3LN in a chase that took them round the suburbs of Toorak, Kensington, Footscray and through the streets of the city. That bound of a fox slowly traversed up and down the streets and through this made things really tough with all the tall buildings. Then he cut the tone and used speech, just to make it really difficult. Everyone was very pleased to hear the familiar voice of our control station, Bob 3OJ, on the air.

The final location was held at the home of our associate member of the Institute and A.G.C.P. class student, Bert Stebbings, and we offer our sincere thanks to Bert and his XYL, Phyl, for opening their home to the Group. The winner for the evening was 2ARV, second place to 2ZAF and third place to Eric 3ADU. Make sure to come along to the Olympic Fox Hunt to be held on December 13. The December hunt, which winds up the year, is an occasion when the ever varying air & foul weather can catch you off the bounds, a hunt in which anything can happen, and you can be certain that the fox will make sure it does.

At the last V.H.F. Group meeting, Mr. D. F. Watson, Group Engineer of the P.M.G.'s Circuit Laboratories, gave a general lecture on operation and uses of relays. He brought along many examples of the P.M.G. type of relays giving full details on how to determine whether the contacts—gold, silver, platinum, etc.—contain many constructional details which determine the speed and load capacities of the various relays. He answered many questions as he went along and concluded by giving a seven page pamphlet containing a description of all types

of service relays to each member present. A vote of thanks was passed and members warmly applauded, showing their appreciation of Mr. Watson's very interesting lecture.

Due to the popularity of the v.h.f. meetings, it was decided to hold field days during the forthcoming summer season. The first one will be held on Sunday, 16th Dec., and will be followed by field days on the third Sunday of Feb., Mar., and Apr. These latter dates for 1957 are for the time being tentative, pending the date to be set for the National Field Day for 1957. The scoring will be as last year, that is, one point per mile to be scored during the QSO. An attractive certificate will again be awarded to the winner of each field day.

SBC and 3ATN had a two-way phone contact on 50 Mc. on 4th Nov. This is possibly the first interstate contact on 50 Mc. The allocation of 50 Mc. to the band, Distance approx 199 miles. Equipment used: SBC—50W. to QO7W/40, 4 l. w.s. beam 40 ft. up, cascade converter; SBC used 50W. to 2ZBZ, 6 l. beam 30 ft. up, stage mix converter.

Newspaper 2ZAL and 3ATN at Warracknabeal is using 50W to QO7W/40 with 5/5 beam, free 144.72 Mc. 3NA at Yarrawa uses 100W to QO7W/40, 5/5 beam, freq 144.73 Mc. Is experimenting with long waves. SBC at Remarkable Park, 2AV, is using 50W to 2ZBZ, 6 l. beam, free 144.13 Mc. 3ZCW at Ouyen, 32W, to p.p. 7183.5/5 beam 40 ft. high, freq. 144.16 Mc. Is building up QO7W/40 rig, hopes to have it going shortly. 2ZAF, 2AV, 2ZBZ, 2NA, 2VU, 2ZCF, 2BZB, 20 ft. high, has cat converter, freq 144.16 Mc. and is hoping to get his beam up higher. 3ACE at Birchip using about 20W. 3ZEE modified with 5/5 beam 50 ft. high, freq. 144.17 Mc. 2AB although busy on other bands, chasing the fox, has been heard on 50 Mc. on 20W. 30 l. beam 5/5 alongside 5/5 100 ft. high, n.c. converter. 3ATN has moved his location and is using about 50W to 2ZBZ shortly to be changed to QO7W/40, free 144.16 Mc. Ant. now using 15 ft. high, using 20 ft. 2D. 2ZBZ, having two w's apart & 20 ft. high. Ray 3ATN of Birchip, has been breaking through to Melbourne recently with very good signals round 85 to 90 and has worked 3ZBZ, 3ZAI and 3ALY 50 Mc. on 20W. 3ZAI has been heard on 50 Mc. contacts each evening round about 8 p.m. His frequency is 144.41 Mc. With all the above activity you are assured of contacts if you direct your beam N.W. of Melbourne.—Phyl Moncur.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The oncoming Geophysical Year activities should not be overlooked by the v.h.f. boys, who are asked to co-operate to thus spread the listening or operating points. A lot of very interesting and helpful information will be obtained as a result of this and although the little bit each of us may do—for few will be able to man their outfit full time—may seem insignificant, it is all to be collated to obtain a full picture of the varying propagation conditions.

The Manufacturers' Exhibition next year will include a stand run by our Division and one of the many items required will be v.h.f. equipment. Those to exhibit DX will be welcome. It will be appreciated that the radio level for the exhibition at the grounds will be poor, so all you types that have real good locations and can shoot up a relay to them on v.h.f. now is the time to speak up. Doc 3MDR and Len 3ELC will be very pleased to see you. They have a lot to offer to organize and want many helpers, so v.h.f. gang, this is your chance. If a number are prepared it will break down the time each link would be required to operate.

Nothing has been heard here by 2AZG and their proposal for 2 m to Adelaide, will keep you posted on this as information comes to hand. Listen on 144.58 from time to time and I'll pass the latest news along, too.

AM 3ZAL will be on 2 m again soon, he has rebuilt his rig and now has a QO7E/12 in the final, whilst Ray 3ZBRM, a new call by the way, has a new shiny 3ZBRM, a new call by the way, has a new shiny 3ZBRM, a new call by the way. We will all be interested to hear what follows. We are the birds Ray. Bill 3LAZ has been heard quite a bit lately, a very fine sig too, his antenna is perched up on a tower that is a v.h.f. man's dream. Neil 3ZAW has had some bother with his final (haven't we all at times), but has straightened it all out and now all happy again.

George 3SG and Reg 3QR have had some fun and 5 x 8 signals across town on 1 mx by merely moving the oscillator. The oscillators of their receivers—he is a real power. Bill 3ZBRM and Ray continue to play chess vis 2 and 1 Mac: couldn't tell you a winner on any of the games. I've heard—you know chess—they may be still going. My own activities have been brief on 2 m this month, mainly confined to doing a

relay of W.I.A. session on Sunday a.m. With the rest of the week devoted to getting the tri-band beam going. Yes it works, so must get back on 2 mX again.—SKF

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The monthly meeting of the W.H.F. Group was held at the QTH of Syd 2SD on Sat Oct 13. After a short while when the members who came Keith 2ZSF, whose ship was in port, the meeting settled down to serious business, constitutions and g.d. equipment discussions took the remainder of an enjoyable evening, concluded with the usual very good supper at a late hour.

Sat night, 20th Oct., saw another Fox Hunt in progress. The job of foiling their opponents was undertaken by 2ZAD, 2ZAS and 2ZAC. The hunt was well planned right along the edge of the Swan River, only three made the grade, these being 2ZL, 2MK, and 2BO in that order. "Never in so short a space of time, have so many been foiled by such a small strike force." Another fox, everybody had a good time and that was the main thing.

2ZAZ has conducted tests from Wagin over a path of about 150 miles with some success.

Activity on the bands may increase with the advent of warmer weather.—2ZAV

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QSL Bureau: H. E. St. John, VK5RJ, 23 Landale Street, Box Hill, E.11, Vic.
Awards Manager: A. G. Weynon, VK5KU, 5 York Street, Bonbeach, Vic.

NEW SOUTH WALES

President: Jim Corbin, VK5YC.
Correspondence Secretary: H. King, VK5ASU.
Secretary: S. P. Farnell, Balgowlah, N.S.W.

Meeting Night: Fourth Friday of each month at Science House, Gloucester Street, Sydney.

Divisional Sub-Editor: Stan Bourke, VK5EL, 17 Clarendon Ave., Canterbury.

QSL Bureau: J. B. Corbin, VK5YC, Box 1734, P.O. Box 11, Canterbury.

Zone Correspondents: North Coast and Tablelands: Noel Hanson, VK5AJH, Ryan Ave., West Kerferd; Newcastle: Lee Sparks, VK5ASB, 18 Kincardine Rd., Highfields, via Adamstown; South-Western: Eddie Williams, VK5W, 271a Queen's Court, Avoca, Cessnock, Western: W. Butt, VK5KZ, "Cambridge," Forbes, South Coast & Southern: E. Fisher, VK5DY, 1 Oxide St., Warragul; Sth. Western: J. W. S. Edge, VK5GJ, Wallace St., Colac; Tamworth: F. W. Fowler, 4 Thompson Crescent, Tamworth.

VICTORIA

President: G. Dennis, VK5YT.
Secretary: F. G. Ball, VK5YI.

Administrative Secretary: Mr. May, C.O.R. House, 181 Queen St., Melbourne.

Meeting Night: First Wednesday of each month at the Radio School, Royal Melbourne Technical College.

FEDERAL VKS (ZERO)

Following the allocation of the prefix VK1 for the Australian Stations operating in the Australian Sector, The "Amateur (Sound) Licence" has now taken place with regard to those stations which operate from the Antarctica.

The prefix of VK1 (for Antarctic) has been withdrawn and in future VK0 (zero) will be allocated to these stations.

It is expected that this change over will take place when relief parties arrive at the various bases towards the end of the year.

EMERGENCY CO-OPERATION IN GREAT BRITAIN

In the November issue mention was made of arrangements to be made for the protection of Amateurs in Great Britain. The "Amateur (Sound) Licence" has been varied and the following new Clause 1 (1) (c) has been added:-

"To use the Station, as part of the self-training of the Licensee in communication by telegraphy, during relief operations or exercises or to such operations conducted by the British Red Cross Society, for the purpose of sending to other Amateur Stations such messages as the Licensee may be requested by the said Society to send, and to receive from such other Amateur Stations such messages as the person licensed to use such other Amateur Station may be requested by the said Society to send."

This official recognition of Amateurs and their value in emergencies is most gratifying and the R.G.B.E. is to be congratulated on its fine work.

FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

Amateurs will be pleased to learn of the granting of the Polar Medal to the following Amateurs who in some cases served two sessions in the Antarctic: Eric Macklin (VK1EM), Jack White (VK1AW), Bill Storer (VK1BS), Hugh Odham (VK1AWT). It is evident that the investiture will be made by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh about Dec. 3. Last year Bill Storer (VK1BS) was the recipient of a similar award. Another Amateur to be granted an honour of a different class was Frans Van Hulsen (VK5LVM), who on Jan. Novem- ber, qualified for the Matrimonial Medal.

Further again to recent pages about the correct address for the call sign to Syria. Col. Wright advanced proof that the address suggested by Alan VK5AHM does not always ensure delivery. Col forwarded intact a letter to 3W8AA that he had sent addressed via Hong Kong and Canton, but which had been returned undeliverable.

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QSL Bureau: Inwards and Outwards—W.L.A., 181 Queen St., Melbourne, G.I., Vic.

Zone Correspondents: Central Western: W. J. Kinella, VK5AKW, Magdalene Lookout; South Western: W. Wines, 48 Cranley St., Warrnambool, and W. Zimmer, VK5AWZ, 70 Skene St., Newtown; North Eastern: L. Ellison, VK5E, 72 Queen St., St. Kilda; Far North Western: F. Voile, VK5MZ, 101 Lygon Ave., Mildura; Eastern: J. Spark, VK5AJK, 20 Marshall Ave., Moel, Nth. Western: C. Case, VK5AJC, Cummins Ave., Birchip.

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President: Frank Bond, VK4ZM.
Secretary: W. J. Rafter, VK4PR, Box 6227, G.P.O., Brisbane.

Meeting Night: Fourth Friday in each month at the State Service Union Rooms, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.

Divisional Sub-Editors: F. B. Bond, VK4ZM, and W. J. Rafter, VK4PR.

QSL Bureau: Inwards—J. Flanagan, VK4PJ, Wanda St., Buranda; Outwards—Miss Clair O'Brien, 60 Jardine St., Stafford.

Zone Correspondents: Maryborough: H. J. Glassop, VK4BG, 50 North St., Maryborough; Townsville: R. K. Wilson, VK4RW, Hogan St., Stuart, Townsville.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President: W. J. Bulling, VK5NC.
Secretary: B. M. Austin, VECO, Box 1234K, G.P.O., Adelaide. Telephone UX 2821.

Meeting Night: Second Tuesday of each month at 17 Waymouth St., Adelaide.

being back stamped "Saigon". No evidence that the letter had been routed as addressed was forthcoming. So it appears to be a gamble whether the postal authorities forward the letter or not.

Col. VK5LZ also addressed to VK1RW on Coates informed him that his call sign had been changed to VK5AJ. The change, while making for uniformity, is unfortunate because VK1RW had already a bunch of cards printed with the old call of VK5LZ.

Due to the death of old-timer, VE3QB, who managed the VE3 QSL Bureau for many years, the address of the VE3 Bureau has been changed to 23 Rylands Crescent, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. The new address is:

The R.E.P. advise that the correct address for that body is Rete Dos Emissores Portugueses, Rue D. Pedro V, 7-4, Lisbon, Portugal.

Dig through your log books and see if you have sent a card to USA, Helge Helgesen, Box 70, Tromsø, Norway. Helge has been awaiting a card from one of the many VE stations worked, but not so far Helge has a soft spot for VK, having been a crew member of the Norwegian oiler factory ship *Balsena* which visited all of our ports during 1960 enroute to Antarctica.

An interesting QSL addressed to BERS102 was from an aircraft mobile station, operated by Jack Wanner (now W6RJN), under the call sign W6RJN/AM. At the time Treb heard the aircraft the mobile aircraft on 14 Mc. the plane was flying at 9600 feet between Darwin and Djakarta.

Bill Storer (VK5EG), ex-VK1BS and VK1EG, will be in Melbourne on P.M.G. duties for about a month covering the Olympic period. Hoping to bend the elbow with many of his old friends.

The Radio Club of Chile advise that due to modification of the number of call districts in Chile it is necessary to amend the conditions of the W.A.C.E. Award. As from July 1, 1956, ten districts have been created in lieu of the existing seven. The present districts CE1 to CE7 remain practically as before, but districts CE8, CE9 and CE10 have been added and are located in the Antartic continent, and CE10 Easter Island. The new conditions for the Award provide that eight QSLs proving communication with eight of the ten districts of Chile can be submitted. The distinction at the QSLs can be omitted if the lot of QSOs is certified by the Awards Manager of a Club or body affiliated with the I.A.R.U. This means that it is only necessary to return calls to the W.I.A. Awards Manager, who will return the QSLs to the Radio Club of Chile.

Letters from the rival societies in Sweden—the S.S.A. and the S.A.R.C.—seem to indicate

Divisional Sub-Editor: E. C. Dow, VK5EF, P.O. Box 44, Gawler, S.A.
QSL Bureau: Geo Luxton, VK5RX, 27 Belair Rd., West Mitcham, S.A. (Inwards and Outwards).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

President: F. A. T. Tredrea, VK5PT.
Secretary: J. Mead, VK5LJ, Box N1005, G.P.O., Perth, W.A.

Meeting Night: First Technical College Annex, Mount Bay Road, Perth.

Meeting Night: Third Tuesday of the month.

Divisional Sub-Editor: E. J. R. Cowles, VK5LJ, P.O. Box 11, Bencubbin, W.A.
QSL Bureau: Jim Rumble, VK5RU, Box Y319, G.P.O., Perth, W.A. (Inwards and Outwards).

TASMANIA

President: F. J. Evans, VK5FJ.
Secretary: M. Hurlburt, VK5MH, Box 2712, G.P.O., Hobart.

Meeting Night: First Wednesday of each month at the W.L.A. Club Room, 147 Liverpool St., Hobart.

Divisional Sub-Editor: H. J. Bracken, VK5TR, C.O. P.O. Bronte Park.
QSL Bureau: K. A. Johnston, VK5TR, 34 Tower Rd., Newtown.

Zone Correspondents: Northern: K. J. Briggs, VK5LX, 16 Melbourne St., Launceston; North Western: S. H. Pattison, VK5UW, 36 Mark St., Burnie, Tas.

PAPUA—NEW GUINEA

President: F. M. Nolan, VK5PN.
Secretary: Mr. H. Young, C/O P. & T. Dept., Port Moresby.

Divisional Sub-Editor: To be appointed.

QSL Bureau: R. Lloyd, VK2ZAL, C.O. Commonwealth Dept. Works, Port Moresby.

an unfortunate cleavage in that country. The handling of cards seems to be the main bone of contention. The S.S.A. definitely state they will not handle or deliver cards to members of the S.A.R.C., while the latter body, whose address is 100 Pitt St., Sydney, will accept cards to all Amateurs and listeners irrespective of their membership in either society. They claim that big packages of cards dating back to 1945 are lying in the S.S.A. Bureau unopened. We hope this unfortunate schism is quickly healed.

The correct address for cards for Amateurs in the Federal Capital Territory (now VK1) is Budj Budj, Box 58, Kingston, Canberra. It is as well to bear in mind that the address of the address as several packages addressed to Kingston, A.C.T., were tried at every Kingston in the Commonwealth—except Kingston, A.C.T.

Ray Jones, VK5RJ, Federal QSL Manager.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Approximately 70 members were present at the October meeting of the New South Wales Division held as usual on the fourth Friday of the month at the Science Institute. The meeting heard reports from New South Wales, (deputized by Horrie 2PA) and Perce ZAPQ on the activities of the Divisional B.C.I./T.V.I. Committees. Although no T.V.I. calls have yet been made, the Committees are in touch with the T.V.I. units conducted on various receivers and transmitters of differing construction. Horrie and Perce would welcome any members willing to assist the Committee with this interesting study. Don IAWW, who has recently returned from the U.K. and U.S.A., demonstrated his "personal portable" T.V. rx and answered questions on many aspects of his trip.

Arrangements have been concluded for the issue of car badges modelled on the Institute badge, and orders are now being accepted by the Secretary.

Discussion took place on the important question of the growing menace of commercial use of the exclusive Amateur bands. Now ZAPQ has drawn up a Divisional code of ethics requiring operators on commercial interference. Noel requests that all who are able should supply him with information as to frequency, call signs and times of operation of non-Amateur stations operating in the amateur bands. Although little can be done to combat the transmitters behind the tree curtain, there are many instances of harmonic and parasitic radiations from stations nearer home especially between 14 Mc. and 7 Mc. If you are 7 Mc. at night you will be no wizened to this problem and the gradual insinuation into the 14 Mc. band promises to reach similar proportions unless action is taken promptly. Noel's address is

R.M.B. 585, Anthony Street, Blacktown, N.S.W.
Let's keep him busy and do something constructive about this threat to our very existence.

HUNTER BRANCH

The University of Technology was the location of the October meeting of the Hunter Branch. One film on the construction of TV aerials, and two sets of antennaes were shown, following which RUD ZXZB declared the meeting open and the minutes were read and business dealt with. The affairs of the Blackalls Convention were finalised and the meeting decided that the 1967 Convention would be held at the University on October 5 and 6, and that Council be asked to hold this date for the Hunter Branch.

Jim McKay lectured on the construction and erection of antenna masts and gave the meeting some interesting hints on guying and anchoring the masts. The members present showed their interest in the number of questions asked.

Following Jim's lecture two more films, one in colour, were shown, again dealing with TV antennae and their construction and testing methods. The meeting closed with the usual raffle.

Mr. Stewart, father of Ron ZASJ, has been very ill the last few weeks and all Branch members wish him a speedy recovery. The usual Xmas Party of the Branch will not be held this year, but a present will be purchased for each child of each member and will be distributed by the members on December 25th. This will be a private time. This will take the form of a personal visit and rageweb. Stan ZZOL, Les ZAZH, Dave ZBZ, Doug ZADS and Les ZAGR have all been active on 14 Mc. and Rodney ZCR active at night on 7 and 14 Mc.

Listen for ZAWX, Monday nights, on 14 Mc. at 8 p.m. for official Hunter Branch news.

UPPER HUNTER GROUP

Note with interest that another Ham has appeared on the way of ZCZB at Scone and to date has not had the pleasure of calling on this gentleman—not 27 miles away. Have no news from ZRC or ZOS, apparently you boys have had to shelf Amateur Radio for a time. The Hunter Branch Field day was attended by Geoff ZVU, Stan ZGK and Ken ZAU. What I heard of Ted was that he was visiting ZAVP at Tamworth. Only two stations were heard operating in the V.h.f. Group spring field day—ZVU and ZAVP who were kept busy with members who still had someone to pass them too. Geoff had building phased array for 3 maz and Ken building converters.

SOUTH WESTERN ZONE

I think by this time the chaps of this zone will have recovered from the Convention and

are once again either building or using the gear for DX or otherwise. You may have had a good welcome visit from Eric EDY, Peggy and family, who were visiting at Wagga, and forced the Murrumbidgee to come to Coonamble. Stan ZBRJ at Quinty is still very active on 144 Mc. and is experimenting with p.m. and discriminators and has talked your seribe into the stuff, also. However, it is good fun playing around, isn't it Les?

Don ZB8 at Albury is active from home QTH after holidays. Don recently had a visit from 2ZIA and was impressed with the many items taken from Len's mobile. Art ZTU is in the Albury area on 144 Mc., after the visit. Lyn ZAQE is active occasionally from Wagga. Have not heard 2AID or 2BW. The Tumut gang have not been heard over here, although have heard ZAAA on 144 Mc.

COALFIELDS AND LAKES

Cec ZAS and other Woy Woy gang have the arrangements for the Field day to be held on the 18th. Major 2RU still the only station heard here from the Gosford area. Doug ZASA of Tumbarumba is on 144 Mc. fairly regularly and also can be found on 21 Mc. Nothing heard this month from Bob ZFK, but understand he is active. From Singleton, Geoff ZVU on 144 Mc. most nights and looking for Newcastle Sydney contacts. Another regular 144 Mc. contact is KATE ZAVP. Stan ZGK and Geoff ZVU hope to be active by Xmas. Chris not active at present time, but 2YL active most bands when the need arises. The highlight of the month at 2YL was the visit of Stan and his good wife; it was a great thrill to meet Bill in person after over 20 years of Ham contacts.

VICTORIA

At the November general meeting, Maurie Anderson (SAMAA) gave a very interesting lecture on her recent trip to Central Australia for the shooting of John Wayne's movie "The Chosen". Firstly he sketched the route of his trip via N.S.W. and Western Queensland, then he showed his large collection of 35 mm. coloured slides, weaving the story of his trip around the subjects of each slide. The beauty of the outback of Eyre's Rock, Simpson's Gap, the monoliths and scenes of the Centre and the enormous carpets of wild flowers were very amazing and wonderfully portrayed in his very excellent collection of slides. Stan ZFZ and myself were particularly struck by the shading of the slides and Stan himself has some very excellent slides of his own which he also showed. Maurie brought in his 40 m. mobile rig which he used on the trip and which is a very neat and compact little unit. Now

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SAMA, he has previously held the call SMA and was one of the original radio crews in the Flying Doctor Service and his name appears on the tablet at the John Flynn Memorial alongside the names of Alf Traeger and Harry Kauper.

The following were welcomed as new members of the Institute—Messrs. R. J. Beames, Mr. G. W. Mochan (ZDXD), H. L. H. Mitchell (SAEHN) and Mr. T. Ballinger (SWE) as full members, and Messrs L. P. Beal and A. J. Lyons as Associates.

Owing to the Olympics, the Bi-monthly Scrabble will not be held in December. Don't worry, though, as there should be another again. Congratulations are extended to Jack SWF and Betty Vertigan who have a brand new little daughter, Karen Lee, who arrived on 18th October. All doing well, especially the father, he's just fine!

STATE CONVENTION

A very successful and enjoyable State Convention was held at Leongatha, a most picturesque country town in the Gippsland area, on the week-end of 3rd and 4th November.

Approximately sixty sat down to the dinner which was excellent. Most of the OM's and their XYLs made the trip with their GMs and before the dinner started each was presented with a spray of roses by JPR's two young harmonicas, Barry and Ronald. Vernie, JPR's XYL was responsible for a lovely surprise, which was a gift box appreciated by all, making them feel really welcome in their OM's world.

Councillor and Mrs. Bond, of Leongatha, were guests honour of the dinner and were pleased to meet Amateurs and their families from Melbourne and other parts of the State who had travelled to Leongatha for the Convention.

After the dinner the ladies retired and spent the evening at the local picture theatre while the OM's got down to the serious business of the subject discussion. Attention of some broadcast series Amateur Interference to communication services using equipment covering Amateur bands, and alteration to the 144 Mc. band.

Unfortunately, because of the weather, which couldn't possibly have been worse, the Sunday activities had to be curtailed, however, despite the very cold weather and unceasing rain, it was still a very excellent day. After visits to the shack of Ron JPR, Jim SDI and Gwen and Ted SWE and JVL, an inspection was made of the Leongatha cheese factory which was most interesting to all.

The picnic lunch which was to have been held at the Moss Vale Park had to be transferred to the Council Chambers, but picnic was still just the same and everyone enjoyed the meal. Vernie, JPR's XYL and all the Super Special Songs XYLs and all the good things made by the XYLs of the Eastern Zone, a mighty fine effort on their part, baking for fifty hungry wireless folk.

After lunch a tx hunt on 80 mhz was run and won by George SAWL second was Ted SWE and third Len SLW. The winners all presented with a very nice piece of radio equipment as their prize.

After the hunt the Convention wound up with cheers, TS and a wish in everybody's heart to all meet again for this grand get-together next year.

Congratulations to Ron Jardine ZPR and the boys of the Eastern Zone for a very well organised and most enjoyable Convention.

80 METRE TRANSMITTER HUNT

The luck of the 80 metre transmitter hunters is almost unbelievable, after that dreadful week of continuous rain, the sun came out and shone, and once again we had a great time for our hunt. A good crowd turned up, approx. 40. Reg ZAD and Barry JJB hid the tx and they chose a very excellent spot. It was at Corp's Park, a particularly scenic park situated on the banks of the Yarra River. Unfortunately the tx was hidden under bushes down at one end of the park. Reg and Barry had fine wire strung up all over the park, giving signals in all directions but the tx was hidden in the bushes. The hunt itself was the entrance to the park itself. It looked exactly like the entrance to a private home and although the signal definitely appeared to be coming from within this entrance, the hunters were very wary of intruding.

The results of the hunt were as described, between SAWL and SWE and SAWL's daughter. What's this about? what's going on between our teenage harmonicas. You'd better look out Len or you'll have Ed chasing you with a gun. Second place was won by the dead-beat, perhaps Reg and SAWL and third went to JADU. And would all please note that Noel SAWL definitely did not come last this time, no of course he didn't, he came second last! The hunt concluded with the usual picnic tea.

STATE CONVENTION

The zone activities this month have been good and the half-yearly convention being held now at Leongatha, Victoria, on 3rd and 4th Nov. SAVG at Colac is busy getting everything fixed up at his new QTH, and also busy with LV. Harry JXJ is giving 21 Mc. calls and has had some nice contacts. Norm SEQ is also 21 Mc. having good signals. That band JARJ's mate, Bill Bell has followed JUT's footsteps and is the proud owner of an 80 mhz vertical, also made of downspite—working out quite well.

Details follow for the convention. The usual mobiles were on the job whilst travelling to Ballarat, they comprised JADV, SAKR, ZAGD, JBV, SAWL, ZAJD, ZAJC, SIC, SAGV, EXL and SAWL. The usual mighty dinner was held at one of Ballarat's local hotels, this being arranged by Bob SGR, he also was M.C. of the whole thing. At the official tables were Bob SGR, Cedric SQA, Bob HIC acting as Vice-President in the absence of Jack SJA, who was unable to attend due to the death of his wife (family), also Ted SAEHL, Zone Secretary, was unable to attend on the Saturday, but came along on the Sunday. Bill Wines, a past Secretary, acted as Secretary. The Internece Trophy was distributed via the S.A.R.C.

After the dinner there was a film night which was very good and was enjoyed by all. There was also a very good display of Ham gear including a complete 144 Mc. tx. Bill SGR's rx. was displayed, as well as a 100 watt rig displayed by Bill Bell (how about an article on this Bill—Ed.); this was operated mobile by JARJ travelling to the convention.

Sunday was started off by a visit to the local base station ZHA; we were shown the new living-room and kitchen by Vic Clark and Keith SIV acted as guide. We owe a very big thank-you to these gentlemen. The first tx hunt started off at 11.15 a.m. and was found by ZAGD, SAWL, Bill Bell and Bill Wines were available. 100 mhz band was used, no idea of where the track to it was. The next tx hunt (after lunch) was won by JLN, followed by ZAGD and SAEH. As this hunt finished before the time was up, we held another and this was won by SAAH-SALQ-ZAJD, all in the one car.

We take this opportunity to thank Bob SGR, who did a marvellous job in every way, also SJA for his help with the organisation, and Mr. J. H. Dwyer, and Keith SIV acted as guide. We owe a very big thank-you to these gentlemen. The first tx hunt started off at 11.15 a.m. and was found by ZAGD, SAWL, Bill Bell and Bill Wines were available. 100 mhz band was used, no idea of where the track to it was. The next tx hunt (after lunch) was won by JLN, followed by ZAGD and SAEH. As this hunt finished before the time was up, we held another and this was won by SAAH-SALQ-ZAJD, all in the one car.

We take this opportunity to thank Bob SGR,

Bruce JAGG and XYL are being congratulated on the addition of a daughter to the family. Jim has been active on 10 mhz. Des SCA is also on the scene. Ron SAWL is still in hospital, v.d.; Brian SAWF is in hospital. Ken SKR is still on the steady list owing to his recent illness. Andy JFD is still the stalwart of the zone hook-ups; Howard STV is up to his eyes in movie equipment. John SAWL is still in hospital, still in the clutches of the emulsion and get on the air. Ted SAB has his mobile antennas mounted on the Dodge utv now; Ray SFI is still unpacking his gear.

Stanley Murray JHZ was found hard at it in the new garden and Eric SAT still can't find time to spend on his hobbies. Harvey ZLG is spending some time in this area and contemplates a full operation from his car. Ray ZLB is still experimenting with his 20 mhz gear and George SJD has been heard on 20 mhz. Earto Secones has found his locality is bad for reception. Nat Blomius has been sighted and is still cheerful, all other personnel in the zone seem to be healthy.

Come on, let's hear from you, the time has arrived when you can blow the gaff on what the fellows are doing. A half-yearly convention is contemplated fellows, let's have your opinions.

STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention held at Leongatha proved a great success, mainly due to the very capable organisation by Ron JPR and XYL. A total of 50 down for the dinner after which the OM's and harmonicas went to the pictures while the GMs got on with the business of the evening.

Reg JVL and Gwen SJA have some nice v.h.f. gear for 20 mhz and sport 1.8. S. A. S. Z. S. has some interesting finds from the U.S.A. and a partly built LV. set. Ron JPR has quite a studio carpet on the floor, mainly interested in the lower bands.

A note of thanks and appreciation go to Ron JPR and XYL, who will handle after the arrangements.

Sympathy is extended to Ron JPR upon the sudden passing of his father who has not enjoyed good health for some time.

GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Recently Cyril Ham entertained members with Mr. J. Firth as speaker. Lecture was "A Journey into Central Australia". The speaker told the audience of experiences of his journey by truck over some picturesque country between Mildura, Adelaide and northwards.

Many members visited the convention at Ballarat and a great time was had by all. The location was not entirely suitable, it was planned to see S.W. Zone members in the person of SAKR, ZADV and ZADG well in the placing of prizes in the events held. Vic Clark and Bill JAWZ ran into trouble during the tx hunt, losing a few gears in transit, but all was repaired satisfactorily. The organiser, SGR, and his friends are indeed to be thanked for a most enjoyable time. At the convention we met SAGV, SII, SAEHL, SLN, ZALY, SFO and many others.

Chas SJK delivered an interesting talk with gear to match on transceivers. Chas spoke on his experiences with the tx and rx to be constructed for 40 and 80 mhz. The gear is also constructed for 10 and 15 mhz.

Many of the boys visited the Leongatha Convention but as this goes to press insufficient reports are to hand—details next month.

The t.v. is being well received in Geelong and Bill JBU entertained members at his QTH on the opening of HSVT. We hope he won't be too far away for the next meeting. We wish all friends our best wishes for the Xmas season.

QUEENSLAND

BRISBANE AND DISTRICT

Some months ago our Council decided that a rebuilding project was due and set an unofficial target of 500 members for the end of the year. The end of the year. A lot of "high pressure" sales talk on the air and off started to bear fruit. Apart from the renewed interest in Ham Radio clubs, which developed early in the year, that helped more than anything in reaching the membership up was the excellent work of Federal Council in bringing to the notice of Federal Parliament in the case of "those" t.v. receivers. Of course we dips out to F.E.D. Now, if the present number of members and membership keeps up the target will be reached. The only dismal point is the present state of world affairs; we hope to "cool down" and the E.I. will be able to send another batch of immigrants like he did last September, 1955.

The authorities seem to be becoming more sympathetic to the needs of amateur radio. Senator Mannan suggested that all licensed Amateurs should be exempted from both excise and sales tax. Later, in the House of Representatives, Pearce, the member for Capricornia, made a similar suggestion and also advocated an increase of power to 200 watts. On the first point there will be hearty approval, because as 25 per cent can make a big dent in the kilowatt, and on the increase of power quite a few of us will dip out to F.E.D. Anyways he has been in areas where a kilowatt is the legal power limit will know what a hopeless mess can occur when a few high power rigs get on the band together. In fact, all a rig with a watt or two of power feeding a dipole less than one '8' will increase over 100 watts with the same antenna. When you look through the W.J.A. DX.CLC. listings you will find many high score and frequent winners, we know some of the boys are running legal size stations like Tibby 4HR with a "over 200 countries" score using a pair of 80's and runs less than 100 watts. Remember, also, that as your power goes up, the current goes up in the initial output. Possibly this will be of interest to our operators, but use your heads, gentlemen; you will see that there is a lot of sense in what we say. You can't look a gift horse in the mouth, so let's just wait and see what happens.

By now all Hams in Queensland have received the procedure to follow in case of an emergency. I have put a lot of time and effort into this work, put a lot of work into compiling the procedure and information from all sources has made the plan almost foolproof. One important point we stress, if an emergency occurs, don't call the Emergency Committee, try to "get into the act" if you aren't at the locality of the emergency or are not in the Emergency Committee, listen, but don't call. If the Emergency boys want help, they will call for it and that will be your cue to call in.

Don't forget the Christmas Get-together this year, to be held at the Astor House on the second Saturday of December at 8 p.m. With the increased membership and attendance at general meetings, this should be well attended, so roll up, one and all, for a really first class evening. There will be no general meeting in

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The general activity is down to a low level, which may brighten up with the summer months ahead. Perc 7ZAW has settled in at his new QTH; they say there is no room for the gear, better find a good Samaritan. Perc if you have not already done so. Heard the other day that Jim 7IO had sold his 100W rig with the next relay party must have been too hot for him in VK6. Maybe we will see some good photographs or slides when he returns. What say young fellow? George 7OCC has hit full tickle mode and left home with all hands. Things are very quiet in VK4 land; how about a few lines 7LX or have you changed your call sign? We are all so curious.

NORTH WESTERN ZONE

The monthly meeting of the zone was held at my QTH in Wynnard on Oct. 23 and was well attended with 18 present, including two new associates. A hearty welcome to you both. As the zone numbers are increasing, it was decided to continue holding two monthly meetings, with location to be determined by the members. "Get the resonant frequency" was a little thing cooked up by our President, Jim 7JO, and consisted of a coil and variable condenser combination; formula was supplied and calculations done on everything. I have found one often on the wall above the masterpiece. First prize was a lovely #97, brand new, with shiny plates, won by Denby 7DR.

After this an auction was held, and it was terrible to see fair normals beaten down to ridiculous figures for things which others shamed their neighbours, shouted bids, fondly stroked various pieces of junk, and generally came under the hypnotic spell of the auctioneer, Ted 7EJ. Glad to see you've got your voice back. Incidentally, I have found one often on the wall above the masterpiece. First prize was a lovely #97, brand new, with shiny plates, won by Denby 7DR.

How's that rx coming along, Johnny Lee? Bob 7KX and I, who associate Max, just built makes a good signal source. George 7XL and his tape recorder, have not been sighted this month, you were out when I called, George. Denby 7DR has a fine ground plane, adding his garage roof and a small mast, he uses the DX on 20 m. The radiator is cut for 15 mrx by the way. Roy 7RN is conspicuous by his absent signal, although he was present at the meeting; appeared to be engrossed in earnest conversation with Ted 7EJ, who was experimenting with the reception of TV at Devonport. How are those TV beams going there, Athel? Put one up over the shop, it's sure to bring customers. Len 7EP, of Queensland, has a station farm on the hill, he appears to be having good DX hunting with the cubical quad. In closing, did anyone hear the wrap-up given to the Hams on a Parliamentary broadcast early in October?

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ALL OUT, Silly Prices. Radio, p.a. gear, components, offer and take away. 147 Patterson Road, Moorabbin, Vic. XU 4732.

SELL: Bendix TA12D Xmtr, 100W, bandswitched 4 bands, 80, 40, 20, 10 mrx. Complete with tubes, circuits, manual notes, case. All reasonable offers considered. L. Jay, 80 Grandview Grove, Rosanna, Vic. JL 2295, MF 0331 (Bus.).

SELL: Modulation Transformer, Ferguson 25w, as new, £3. M. Collins 18 Natimuk Road, Horsham, Vic.

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